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Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/762,310	CHEN, HSI-FU	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Ismael Izaguirre	3765	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to status letter of 7/29/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 8.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 23 January 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37.CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

COMMENTS

Reasons For Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the independent claim defines a steam iron comprising a housing with a receiving chamber, water tank and boiler. The water tank and boiler are mounted in the receiving chamber. The water tank has a water supply tank extending from the tank body to the boiler and the boiler has a relief pipe from the boiler to the water tank body. A one-way check valve having a valve flap is provided between the water tank and the boiler for feeding water to the boiler when the boiler has a predetermined pressure. When the boiler has an internal pressure higher than the predetermined pressure, the flap valve closes. The relief valve has a movable piston mounted in a casing, which is openable when the pressure is higher than the predetermined pressure for passing steam back to the tank body, and is closeable by the water in the tank body when the pressure is below the predetermined pressure. The dependent claims further limit the structure of the steam iron of the independent claim.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Pertinent Citations

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. De Maneville et al. Illustrate a steam iron including a valve

openable at a temperature of the boiler for allowing water into the throttle of the iron. Schossow illustrates a humidifier-vaporizer including a water feed line with a check valve, which feeds water to a boiler. Valiyambath illustrates an iron stand and iron including a feeding tube with valves for feeding steam or water to the iron. Farrington illustrates a spray nozzle for a steam iron including a disc like member for guiding water from the nozzle. Reiss et al. illustrate an iron with a water tank having a valve for feeding water to a valve chamber for subsequent feeding to the boiler. The boiler includes a relief valve for passing steam back to the valve chamber. Rawle et al. Illustrate an iron with a ball check valve for avoiding backflow. Sastre et al. Illustrate an iron including pressure equalizing means and one-way check valves for allowing air to enter the water tank.

INQUIRIES

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ismael Izaguirre whose telephone number is (571) 272-4987. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:30-6:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Calvert can be reached on (571) 272-4983. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'I' followed by a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke.

Ismael Izaguirre
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3765

II

9/5/05